and accordingly, taking her under my Conſideration, I had all the Succeſs I could wiſh for, which perhaps may not be unacceptable to the Curious, if I publiſh in one of the next Tranſactions.

XII *Account of Books.*

1. *Voyages and Diſcoveries in* South America: *The Firſt up the River of* Amazons *to* Quito *in* Peru, *and back again to* Brazil, *performed at the Command of the King of* Spain, *by* Chriſtopher D'Acugna. *The Second, up the River of* Plate, *and thence by Land to the Mines of* Potoſi, *by M.* Acarete. *The Third, from* Cayenne *into* Guiana, *in ſearch of the Lake of* Parima, *reputed the richeſt Place in the World, by M.* Grillet, *and* Bechamel. *Done into Engliſh from the Originals, being the only Accounts of thoſe Parts hitherto extant, with Maps.* London, *Printed for* Sam. Buckly, *at the* Dolphin *in* Fleet-Street.

FAther *D'Acugna*, begins with a ſhort Account of ſome remarkable Attempts that had been made unſuccesfully at ſeveral times by the *Spaniards*, to diſcover the River of *Amazons*; and then proceds to the perfect Diſcovery of it, by *Don Pedro de Texeira*, who in the Year 1637. ſet out from *Para* in *Brazil*, with 70 Portugeſe, and 1200 Indians in 47 Canoos, and paſſing up the River with much difficulty, got to *Quito* in *Peru*:

The

The News whereof being ſent to the Vicercy of *Peru* reſiding at *Lima*, he ordered General *Texeira* to return to *Para* by the ſame way he came, and Two able Spaniards (of which our Author was one) to embark with him, to take an Account of the Courſe of the River, and the Country and People along it: and then to go to *Spain* to acquaint his Catholick Majeſty with their Diſcoveries. Accordingly they left *Quito* in *Jan.* 1639. and were Ten Months going down the River to *Para*. From thence *F. C. D'Acugna* went to *Spain*, and preſented the King his Maſter with an ample Account of what he had obſerv'd upon this great River, which was publiſhed at *Madrid*, 1641. but within a Year after, the *Portugueſe* making themſelves Maſters of all *Braſil*, and conſequently of the Mouth of the *Amazons*, it was judg'd neceſſary to ſuppreſs the ſaid Book, both in *Spain* and *America*, for the following Reaſon; the frequent ſacking of their Towns, and ſeizing of their Ships by the Engliſh, French, and Dutch, put *Philip* the Third upon ſearching out new Ways of Tranſporting the Treaſures of *Peru*, *Chili*, and *Granada*, into *Spain*; to which End (the Coaſts about, and in the Gulf of *Mexico*, being as well known as thoſe in *Europe*) orders were diſpatch'd from the Court at *Madrid* to the Governors of *Brazil* and *Peru*, to attempt the Navigation of the great River of *Amazons*, that if it were found practicable, the Gold, Silver, and other Merchandizes of *Peru*, and the adjacent Countries might be ſafely and commodiouſly ſent down to *Para*, to be put on board the Galleons, which would lie leſs expos'd there, than at *Cartagena*, *Porto Belo*, or *Vera Cruz*, the Soundings of the Mouth of that River being unknown, and dangerous to Strangers. Now the loſs of *Brazil* ſpoiling this Project, and no further Uſe being to be made of the Diſcovery by the *Spaniards*, they were not willing any other People ſhould beth e better

for

for it, and hence the Copy of this Book became ſo ſcarce that Mr. *Gomber Ville* ſays, there was not above Two in *Europe*, when he tranſlated it into French, the Introduction to our Engliſh Verſion informs us, what Propoſals were made by the Count *de Pagan* to Cardinal *Mazarine*, in 1655. for Conquering and Planting this great River, but he, being involv'd in Domeſtick Troubles, was not at leiſure to undertake it; nor has it been attempted ſince, by any *Europeans*. By the Account which Father *D'Acugna* gives of this River, it takes its Riſe Eight Leagues from *Quito*, within Twenty Minutes of the Equinoctial Line, runs from Eaſt to Weſt, coaſting along the South Side of the Equinoctial Line, and is not diſtant from it, above Five Degrees, in the greateſt of its Windings; the narroweſt part of it is a Quarter of a League broad, in ſome Places it is One, in others Two, Three, and Four Leagues wide; and after a Courſe of above 1200 Leagues, diſcharges it ſelf into the Sea, by a Mouth 84 Leagues broad, and is ſo deep, that a Ship of the largeſt Size may go up almoſt to its Source. Not to deſcend to particulars, he tells us in general, that the Country is Rich and Fertile, abounding in Corn, Wood, and Cattle, not without Mines of Gold; the Inhabitants numerous, handſom and ingenious, but different in their Language and Government. He has likewiſe taken Care to mark the Diſtances of Places all along the River, and what is peculiarly remarkable in each, either of the Inhabitants or Products of the Earth. In a Word, he has ſhewn himſelf perfectly qualified for the Buſineſs he was ſent upon, which requir'd no leſs Sincerity than Accuracy and Judgment, and has given us a very entertaining Deſcription of the nobleſt River in the World, and the richeſt Tract of Land in all *America*. The Two other Voyages in this Book, were judg'd proper to accompany this, as deſcribing Two other Large

Parts

Parts of *America*, whereof till now, we had but imperfect Accounts.

2. *Traite du Cancer, ou l'on explique ſa nature, & ou l'on propoſe les moyens les plus ſurs pour le guerir Methodiquement. Avec un examen du ſyſteme & de la pratique de Mr.* Helvetius. *Par Mr.* J. B. Alliot, *Conſeiller du Roy, Medecin ordinaire de ſa Majeſte, & de la* Baſtille, Paris, 1698. in 8vo.

THE Father of the Author of this Treatiſe, *Petrus Alliot*, who lived in *Lorrain*, and was Phyſitian to the Dukes of that Name in that Country, had made a particular inquiry into the Nature and Cure of Cancers and Cancerous Tumours. The King of *France* hearing of his Reputation at the Time when the Queen-Mother was troubled with this Diſeaſe, ſent for him to *Paris*, whither the Author came with his Father, and profited under him in the Management of this Diſeaſe. The Author, after ſome general Preliminaries, diſtinguiſhes Cancers into ſuch as are apparent or occult. He thinks the Cancer to come from Acids, and to be beſt cured by Alkalies, and abſorbing Medicines. He finds Fault with Monſieur *Helvetius*, for not underſtanding the Ancients, Moderns, or his own Syſtem of this Diſeaſe, and at laſt propoſes his Father's Method (which *Ettmuller* had ſome Notice of, as appears by Quotations in this Book) which is by a Medicine made of red Arſenick, or Realgar Powdered, and put into a very ſtrong Lixivial, the Diſſolution is power'd off by Inclination, it is filtrated, and to this Liquor is put Vinegar of Lead, till nothing precipitates. This Powder precipitated is ſweetned by Twelve or Fifteen times powring warm Water on it. The laſt Water ought to come off inſipid, then burn either pure Spirit of Wine, Five or Six

Six times on it, or ſuch to which is put a Tincture of Opium, then powder it, and it is ready for uſe. But both for the Reaſonings on this Diſeaſe, and the Uſe of this Medicine, recourſe ought to be had to the Book itſelf.

XIII. *A Catalogue of Books lately publiſh'd, not mentioned in theſe Tranſactions.*

MUſeum regium, ſeu Catalogus rerum tam naturalium, quam artificialium, quæ in baſilica bibliothecæ auguſtiſſimi Daniæ Norvegiæq; Monarchæ Chriſtiani quinti Haffiniæ aſſervantur deſcriptus ab Oligero Jacobæo. Han. 1696. fol.

Godefridi Bidloo, vindiciæ quarundam delineationum anatomicarum contra ineptas animadverſiones, Fred. Ruyſchii. Lugd. Bat. 1697. 4to.

Frederici Ruyſchii Reſponſio ad Godefridi Bidloi libellum cui nomen vindiciarum inſcripſit. Amſt. 1697. in 4to.

Chriſtiani a Steenvelt diſſertatio de ulcere verminoſo. Lugd. Bat. 1697. in 4to.

Bibliotheca Hiſpana vetus, ſive Hiſpanorum qui uſquam unquamve ſcripto aliquid conſignaverunt, notitia. Complectens Scriptores omnes qui ab Octaviani Auguſti imperio uſq; ad annum 1500. floruerunt. Auctore Nicolao Antonio, opus poſthumum. Rom. 1696. fol.

Corpus pharmaceutico-chymico-medicum ſive concordantia pharmaceuticorum compoſitorum, ad mentem clariſſimorum, virorum hinc inde breviter illuſtrata. Studio & Opera Joannis Helfrici Jungken Phyſici Francofurtenſis. Francof. 1697. 8vo.

Cours de Chymie par Nicolas Lemery. 9e. edition. Paris, 1697. 8vo.

Jo. Conradi Barchuſen, pyroſophia, in tres partes diviſa, quarum 1. Jatrochemiam; altera rem metallicam, 3. Chry-